REMARKS

Claims 1-11, 31 and 32 are pending in this application. The recitations of Claims 5 and 6 have been incorporated into base Claim 1 (and also into Claims 10 and 110, and claims 5 and 6 have been canceled; in addition, Claims 12-30 have been canceled; these actions are taken without prejudice or disclaimer of subject matter. In addition to the changes just noted, Claim 7 has been amended as to dependency, and formal changes have been made to claims 4, 10 and 11. Claims 31 and 32 have been added to provide Applicants with a full measure of protection of the scope to which Applicants deem themselves entitled. Claims 1, 10, 11 and 31 are independent claims.

Applicants note with appreciation the Examiner's indication that Claims 6, 7 and 12-30 would be allowable if rewritten in independent form without a change in scope. Since as noted the recitations of Claim 6 (and of Claim 5) have been incorporated into Claim 1, that latter claim is believed to be in condition for allowance. similarly, claims 10 and 11 are thought to be allowable.

Independent Claim 31 is directed to an image processing apparatus capable of forming an image based on image data in RGB or YMCK format transmitted from an information processing apparatus. The image processing apparatus comprises holding means for holding the image data transmitted, and rendering means for acquiring the image data held in the holding means in units of colors by accessing the holding means via a bus, and generating rendering data. Also provided are image forming means, for forming an image in units of colors based on the rendering data, and determining means for, when a format of the image data is RGB format, predicting the rendering time for generating the rendering data in the RGB format based on the load of bus for acquiring the image data in

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the RGB format in units of colors, and determining whether or not it is possible to generate the rendering data. Also, according to Claim 31, if it is determined by the determining means that it is not possible to generate the rendering data, an image in YMCK format is formed by demanding that the information processing apparatus transmits image data in YMCK format.

Claim 31 is deemed to be allowable for the same reasons as are Claims 1, 10 and 11.

In view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, Applicants respectfully request favorable reconsideration and early passage to issue of the present application.

Applicants' undersigned attorney may be reached in our New York office by telephone at (212) 218-2100. All correspondence should continue to be directed to our below listed address.

Respectfully submitted,

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